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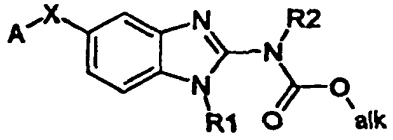

(I)

(57) Abstract

A group of vascular damaging agents which can be used in the preparation of medicaments for the treatment of diseases involving neovascularisation are provided. These are 5(6)–substituted benzimidazole–2–carbamates of formula (I) wherein Alk is an alkyl group, X is oxygen, sulphur, sulphinyl, sulphonyl, carbonyl (CO), thiocarbonyl (CS), sulphonyloxy, NH, iminomethylene (C=NH), N–hydroxyiminomethylene, N–alkoxyiminomethylene, dialkoxymethylene, 1,3–dioxolan–2yl, 1,1–ethenyl, a group CHR^3 or a bond, R^1 is hydrogen, alkylaminocarbonyl or alkoxycarbonyl, R^2 is hydrogen, alkoxycarbonyl, cyanomethyl, cyanoethyl, alkoxymethyl or acetoxymethyl. R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or amino, A is an optionally substituted aromatic, optionally substituted heteroaromatic, optionally substituted heterocycloalkyl, optionally substituted alkyl or optionally substituted cycloalkyl group and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates and hydrates thereof. Most of the compounds of this group are novel, in particular those in which A is an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring with substituents, particularly substituents which are phosphates or alkylphosphates. The invention therefore provides both novel compounds and pharmacological compositions with compounds within the broad definition.

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